

CLAIMS

1. A drinking straw comprising a first end from which in  
use a user drinks and a second end for dipping into a  
5 liquid to be drunk, a temporary closure at said first  
end closing the straw, a sealed and at least partially  
evacuated chamber formed in said straw, the interior of  
said chamber being closed against fluid communication  
with the second end of the straw by a user openable  
10 closure, whereby when the second end of said straw is  
dipped in liquid and said user openable closure is  
opened, vacuum in said chamber draws liquid through said  
second end of the straw toward said chamber and into a  
portion of said straw within which said liquid produces  
15 a visible change.
2. A drinking straw as claimed in Claim 1, having a bore  
defined within a wall member,  
20 said straw comprising a portion extending from a  
location intermediate said ends or at said second end  
towards said first end, said portion constituting said  
chamber,  
25 means forming said user openable closure of said bore at  
said location, and

the wall member at least in said portion of the straw being such that when liquid contents are present within the straw said contents produce a visible change.

- 5    3.    A straw as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the temporary closure of the bore at said location is formed by a removable clamp compressing said wall member to close said bore.
- 10   4.    A straw as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the temporary closure of the bore at said location is formed by an occlusion of the bore of the straw and the wall member adjacent said occlusion has a weakened area at which it is frangible by being bent by the user.
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5.    A straw as claimed in any one of Claims 2 to 4, wherein said location is intermediate the ends of the straw and divides said portion of the straw from a second portion extending from said location to the second end of the
- 20   straw.
6.    A straw as claimed in Claim 5, wherein a vent hole is provided through said wall communicating with said bore in said second portion of the straw adjacent said
- 25   location.
7.    A straw as claimed in Claim 1, having a bore for the passage of liquid to be drunk and wherein said chamber extends side by side with said bore over at least a
- 30   portion of the length of the straw, and wherein said

user openable closure is a frangible seal in a common wall separating said chamber from said bore.

- 5 8. A straw as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said portion of said straw in which said liquid is visible is shaped to include a plurality of coils or loops.
9. A straw as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said coils or loops form alphanumeric characters.
- 10 10. A straw as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the temporary closure at the first end of said straw is formed by a removable end cap applied to said straw.
- 15 11. A vessel containing a liquid having a straw as claimed in any preceding claim with said second end dipping into said liquid, such that upon opening of the user openable closure of said chamber, liquid is drawn into said portion in which it is visible.
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A straw as claimed in claim 1 having a bore for the passage of liquid wherein the chamber extends side by side with the bore over at least a portion of the length of the straw.

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A straw as claimed in 12 wherein said liquid is prevented from returning to gravity by inclusion of a one-way valve or flap within said portion of straw.

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A vessel as claimed in 11 wherein the drinking straw is as claimed in any one of the claims 1 to 14,